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Book Reviews

Caesar in Gaul and Selections from the Third Book of the Civil War.

With introduction, review of first-year syntax, notes, grammar, prose-composition, and vocabularies, by BENJAMIN L. D'OUGE and FREDERICK C. EASTMAN. Boston: Ginn & Co. Pp. xl. +460+120. \$1.40.

Here is offered in a single volume all the material required for second-year Latin. Following the introductory pages "a thorough review of the first year's work in syntax is presented by means of a biography of Caesar in ten short chapters written in simple Latin." These are too brief to afford much information in themselves and it is to be questioned whether students at this stage can read even this simple Latin rapidly enough to get the intended comprehensive review. The time might better be spent on the text proper. On the other hand, the definite lists of constructions appended to each chapter are admirably chosen. Books i-iv of the *Gallic War* are given entire. A feature of the book is the presentation of the longer speeches of Books i and ii in direct discourse, the original oratio obliqua, however, being given later in the volume for those who wish it. Selections from Books v, vi, and vii follow, as also Caesar's story of the battle of Pharsalia, the pursuit and death of Pompey, and the beginning of the Alexandrian War. The notes are very good, though brief and in rather too fine type; yet this is inevitable in so comprehensive a volume. The grammar part is even more concise; while a sufficiency of forms is given, mention of the groups of *i*-stems would be more valuable than the list of those that have *i* or *e* in the ablative singular. The use of the superlative ending in *-rimus* is not explained, nor is the accusative plural *is*-form of the comparative given (though it is in *plus*). The special paradigm of *mei* and *tui* as reflexives is admirable. The name "past descriptive" adopted for the second tense of the indicative seems needless, especially as it covers but one of the uses of the tense (v. sec. 154); furthermore, as it does not apply to the subjunctive, two names for the ordinary imperfect must be learned. Nor is this subjunctive tense happily designated as "past" (v. sec. 159b, 161, 1); the old name "imperfect" for both tenses has not been improved upon. The many pictures in the book are helpful and interesting, but it is high time that these stock illustrations of schoolbooks be brought to scale or at least so placed that a pupil should not get a wrong idea of the proportions of, e.g., *scutum* and *gladius* (p. xxxi). It would be interesting also if the sources of the illustrations could be given. To the pupil the pictures on pp. 136, 159, and 165 stand on the

same footing. Ought this impression to be left? Why should not all the illustrations be as admirably explained as is the Latin MS on p. 81? Yet even this would be better placed were it arranged for comparison with the chapter of which it is the original. These last are "refinements," but they are what the manufacturer seeks in order to make his new output sell, which is doubtless the reason for another "Caesar." This book, however, does certainly afford a wider acquaintance with Caesar's activities and writings than has heretofore been available in convenient form. Presswork and proofreading have been admirably done.

FRANK S. BUNNELL

NORWICH (CONN.) FREE ACADEMY

Études Syriennes. Par FRANZ CUMONT, Membre de l'Institut.
Paris: A. Picard, 1917. Pp. xi+379.

In the spring of 1907 M. Cumont made a visit of travel and exploration to Northern Syria whose results are recorded in this exceptionally beautiful volume, illustrated by a hundred original maps and photographs. The contents are varied and yet unified, the whole having for a background the author's masterful grasp of the entire field of the oriental religions that formed a part of Roman paganism. The titles of the studies are as follows: "Le Marche de l'Empereur Julien," "L'Aigle Funéraire et l'Apothéose," "Les Carrières Romaines d'Énesh," "Le Temple de Zeus Dolichènus," "Trois Mausolées de Commagène," "Cyrrhus," "Divinités Syriennes." They are followed by an Itinéraire, and by notes on epigraphical and manuscript sources.

M. Cumont, who made many friends in America in 1911-12 during a lecture tour, has lived in Rome and Paris since the beginning of the war.

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